

Application No.: 08/948,328

Docket No.: 00-VE17.22A

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 1, 12, 14, 19, and 27 are independent claims. In the Final Office Action, claims 1-11, 14-18, and 26-27 were allowed. Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. 5,943,648 ("Tel"). Claim 12 was further rejected as allegedly anticipated by U.S. 5,924,068 ("Richard"). Claims 19-20, 22-23, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. 5,835,087 ("Herz") in view of Tel. Claims 24 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Herz in view of Tel and further in view of U.S. 6,115,384 ("Parzych").

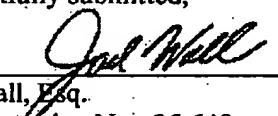
Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview with Applicants' representative that was conducted on August 25, 2005. In that interview, the Examiner stated that claims 19-25 were allowable, and that the Final Office Action should have so indicated. Further, the Examiner stated that the foregoing amendment to claim 12 would render claims 12-13 allowable. In addition to claim 12, claim 27 is amended herein for the purpose of correcting a typographical error.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 07-2347, under Order No. 00-VE17.22A from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: September 14, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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